# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	Chapter 11
MINING PROJECT WIND DOWN HOLDINGS, INC. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.), <i>et al.</i> ,	Case No. 22-90273 (MI)
	(Jointly Administered)
Debtors. <sup>1</sup>	

## PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S OBJECTION TO CLAIM NO. 10062 OF TESLAWATT, LLC

This is an objection to your claim. The objecting party is asking the Court to disallow the claim that you filed in this bankruptcy case. If you do not file a response within 30 days after this objection was served on you, your claim may be disallowed without a hearing. Represented parties should act through their attorney.

If you object to the relief requested, you must respond in writing. Unless otherwise directed by the Court, you must file your response electronically at <a href="https://ecf.txsb.uscourts.gov/">https://ecf.txsb.uscourts.gov/</a> within thirty days from the date this objection was filed. If you do not have electronic filing privileges, you must file a written response that is actually received by the clerk within thirty days from the date this objection was filed. Otherwise, the Court may treat the objection as unopposed and sustain the relief requested.

On September 28, 2023, the Court entered the *Final Decree Closing Certain Cases and Amending Caption of Remaining Cases* [Docket No. 1287], closing the chapter 11 cases of the following sixteen entities: Mining Project Wind Down Atoka LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down RS LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining RS LLC (f/k/a CN RS LLC) (4384); Mining R

Wind Down Atoka LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down BS LLC (f/k/a CN Big Spring LLC) (4397); Mining Project Wind Down Colorado Bend LLC (f/k/a CN Colorado Bend LLC) (4610); Mining Project Wind Down Developments LLC (f/k/a CN Developments LLC) (2570); Mining Project Wind Down Equipment LLC (f/k/a CN Equipment LLC) (6885); Mining Project Wind Down King Mountain LLC (f/k/a CN King Mountain LLC) (7190); Mining Project Wind Down MDN LLC (f/k/a CN Minden LLC) (3722); Mining Project Wind Down Mining LLC (f/k/a CN Mining LLC) (5223); Mining Project Wind Down Pledgor LLC (f/k/a CN Pledgor LLC) (9871); Mining Project Wind Down Member LLC (f/k/a Compute North Member LLC) (8639); Mining Project Wind Down NC08 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NC08 LLC) (8069); Mining Project Wind Down NY09 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NY09 LLC) (5453); Mining Project Wind Down STHDAK LLC (f/k/a Compute North SD, LLC) (1501); Mining Project Wind Down Texas LLC (f/k/a Compute North Texas LLC) (1883); Mining Project Wind Down TX06 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX06 LLC) (5921); and Mining Project Wind Down TX10 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX10 LLC) (4238). The chapter 11 cases of the remaining three Reorganized Debtors: Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.) (4534); Mining Project Wind Down LLC (f/k/a Compute North LLC) (7185); and Mining Project Wind Down Corpus Christi LLC (f/k/a CN Corpus Christi LLC) (5551), shall remain open and jointly administered under the above caption. The Reorganized Debtors' service address for the purposes of these chapter 11 cases is 2305A Elmen Street, Houston, TX 77019.

A hearing will be conducted on this matter on February 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. (prevailing Central Time) in Courtroom 404, 4th floor, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77002. You may participate in the hearing either in person or by an audio and video connection.

Audio communication will be by use of the Court's dial-in facility. You may access the facility at 832-917-1510. Once connected, you will be asked to enter the conference room number. Judge Isgur's conference room number is 954554.

Video communication will be by use of the GoToMeeting platform. Connect via the free GoToMeeting application or click the link on Judge Isgur's home page at <a href="https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/content/united-states-bankruptcy-judge-marvin-isgur">https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/content/united-states-bankruptcy-judge-marvin-isgur</a>. The meeting code is "JudgeIsgur". Click the settings icon in the upper right corner and enter your name under the personal information setting. Hearing appearances must be made electronically in advance of both electronic and in-person hearings. To make your appearance, click the "Electronic Appearance" link on Judge Isgur's home page. Select the case name, complete the required fields and click "Submit" to complete your

Tribolet Advisors LLC, in its capacity as Plan Administrator ("<u>Plan Administrator</u>") in the above-captioned bankruptcy cases (the "<u>Bankruptcy Cases</u>"), hereby files this *Objection to Claim No. 10062 of TeslaWatt LLC* (the "<u>Objection</u>"), and respectfully states as follows in support thereof:

appearance.

#### CASE BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- 1. On September 22, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), each of the above-captioned debtors (the "<u>Debtors</u>" and, as of the effective date of the Plan, the "<u>Reorganized Debtors</u>") commenced a chapter 11 case by filing a voluntary petition for relief in this Court under title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>").
- 2. On November 17, 2022, Teslawatt LLC (the "<u>Claimant</u>") filed proof of claim number 10062 (the "<u>Proof of Claim</u>"), asserting a general unsecured claim in the Mining Project Wind Down LLC (f/k/a Compute North LLC) bankruptcy case in the amount of \$72,721.80 (the "Claim").

- 3. The Proof of Claim assets that Claimant is entitled to reimbursement of \$72,721.80 in deposit money (the "Deposit") paid under a Master Agreement dated January 15, 2021 (the "Master Agreement") between Compute North LLC and Claimant and related invoice (the "Invoice"), copies of which are attached to the Proof of Claim.
- 4. On February 16, 2023, the Court entered an order confirming the *Third Amended Joint Liquidating Chapter 11 Plan of Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.) and Its Debtor Affiliates* (the "Confirmation Order" and "Plan", respectively).<sup>2</sup>
  - 5. The effective date of the Plan (the "Effective Date") occurred on March 31, 2023.<sup>3</sup>
- 6. The Plan Administrator is governed by the Amended Plan Administrator Agreement (the "Plan Administrator Agreement"). Pursuant to the Plan, Confirmation Order, and Plan Administrator Agreement, the Plan Administrator is tasked with, among other things: (1) serving as the sole manager, director, and officer of the Reorganized Debtors as of the Effective Date; (2) implementing the Plan and any applicable orders of the Court; and (3) reconciling and resolving claims asserted against the Reorganized Debtors' estates.<sup>5</sup>
- 7. The Plan Administrator, its counsel, professional advisors and consultants, including but not limited to Grant Thornton LLP ("Grant Thornton" and collectively, the "Reviewing Parties") are diligently reviewing the claims filed in the Bankruptcy Cases, including the Proof of Claim, the claims register, the Debtors' books and records, and the supporting documentation provided by Claimant, if any.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Docket No. 1019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Docket No. 1082.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Exhibit E to Docket No. 1079.

Plan §§ 4.2.5, 7.3; Confirmation Order ¶¶ 53, 88; Plan Administrator Agreement § 1.3.

- 8. The Plan Administrator objects to the Claim because Claimant is precluded from recovering the amounts sought under the express terms of the Master Agreement.
- 9. In support of this Objection, the Plan Administrator submits the *Declaration of Michael Tribolet, Managing Member of Tribolet Advisors LLC, in Support of the Objection to Claim No. 10062 of TeslaWatt, LLC* (the "Tribolet Declaration"), attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

10. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). The Plan Administrator confirms its consent, pursuant to Rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), to the entry of a final order by the Court. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

#### **ARGUMENT**

- A. Statutory Basis and Burden of Proof
- 11. Section 502(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that "[a] claim or interest, proof of which is filed under section 501 of this title is deemed allowed, unless a party in interest . . . objects." 11 U.S.C. § 502(a). Section 502(b) provides that a court "shall determine the amount of such claim . . . as of the date of the filing of the petition, and shall allow such claim in such amount, except to the extent that (1) such claim is unenforceable against the debtor and the property of the debtor . . . ." 11 U.S.C. § 502(b)(1).
- 12. Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f) states that "[a] proof of claim executed and filed in accordance with these rules shall constitute *prima facie* evidence of the validity and amount of the claim." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3001(f). However, a proof of claim loses the presumption of *prima facie* validity under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f) if an objecting party refutes at least one of the allegations that is essential to the claim's legal sufficiency. *See In re Fidelity Holding Co., Ltd.*,

837 F.2d 696, 698 (5th Cir. 1988). When such an allegation is refuted, the burden reverts to the claimant to prove the validity of its claim by a preponderance of evidence. *Id.* "The ultimate burden of proof always lies with the claimant." *In re Armstrong*, 347 B.R. 581, 583 (Bankr. N.D. Tex. 2006) (citing *Raleigh v. Ill. Dep't of Revenue*, 530 U.S. 15 (2000)).

- B. Claimant is Contractually Precluded from Recovering the Deposit
- 13. Claimant is not entitled to a claim against the bankruptcy estate for the amount of the Deposit because Claimant waived any such recovery under its contract with Mining Project Wind Down LLC (f/k/a Compute North LLC).
- 14. Section 6.1 of the Master Agreement expressly provides that "[t]he Initial Setup Fees, Initial Deposit and Hardware Deposit are non-refundable and non-transferrable under any circumstances" (emphasis added). The Master Agreement was signed by Claimant's CRO.
- 15. Under the express terms of the Master Agreement, Claimant waived any right it would otherwise have to reimbursement of the Deposit.

#### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

16. This Objection is limited to the grounds stated herein. The Plan Administrator expressly reserves the right to amend, modify, and supplement this Objection, and the right to respond to any assertion regarding the Claim. The Plan Administrator further reserves all rights to present any evidence at a designated hearing for this proceeding to support its Objection and to disprove any future assertions that may be brought by Claimant. The Plan Administrator reserves the right to contest the Proof of Claim and any other claims asserted by Claimant on any other grounds. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission as to the amount, priority, or validity of any claims asserted by Claimant.

#### CONCLUSION

17. The Plan Administrator respectfully requests that the Claim be disallowed in its entirety, that the Proof of Claim be disallowed and expunged, and that the Court grant such other and further relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: December 22, 2023 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Charles R. Gibbs

Charles R. Gibbs

Texas State Bar No. 7846300

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Counsel to the Plan Administrator

### **Certificate of Service**

I certify that on December 22, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern Districtof Texas.

I further certify that on December 22, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by First Class Mail and email to Claimant at the addresses listed on the Proof of Claim, as follows:

Barron & Newburger, P.C. Attn: Stephen W. Sather, Esq. 7230 N. MoPac Expwy., Ste. 400 Austin, TX 78731 ssather@bn-lawyers.com TeslaWatt, LLC Attn: Vladimir Radovic 1930 Village Center Circle #3-5422 Las Vegas, NV 89134

/s/ Charles R. Gibbs

Charles R. Gibbs